

Patent Number:

US005996956A

5,996,956

United States Patent [19]

Shawver [45] Date of Patent: Dec. 7, 1999

[11]

[54] MOUNTING PLATFORM FOR AN ELECTRONIC DEVICE

[76] Inventor: **Michael Shawver**, 7283 Wild Currant Way, Oakland, Calif. 94611-1340

[21] Appl. No.: **09/098,074**

[22] Filed: Jun. 16, 1998

Related U.S. Application Data

[60] Provisional application No. 60/052,760, Jun. 17, 1997, and provisional application No. 60/063,885, Oct. 31, 1997.

51] **Int. Cl.**⁶ **H05K 5/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **248/309.1**; 248/688; 345/173; 345/179; 361/686; 364/708.1

901, 146; 361/686, 683; 364/708.1; 400/682, 685, 681

[56] References Cited

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

4,940,204	7/1990	Nelson et al 248/688
5,478,037	12/1995	Haltof 248/309.1 X
5,480,115	1/1996	Haltof 248/309.1 X
5,494,250	2/1996	Chen 248/316.7
5,751,546	5/1998	Clark et al 361/686
5,822,546	10/1998	George
5,859,628	1/1999	Ross et al

Primary Examiner—Ramon O. Ramirez
Assistant Examiner—Stephen S. Wentsler
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Limbach & Limbach L.L.P.

[57] ABSTRACT

A mounting platform for holding and operating an electronic device having a plurality of activatable controls. The mounting platform includes a platform member having a front mounting surface, a plurality of tab members extending from the platform member to removably secure the electronic device to the front mounting surface, and a stylus assembly attached to the platform member. The stylus assembly includes a guide wall having a guide surface with a plurality of detente recesses formed thereon, a stylus member slidably mounted relative to the guide surface and having a stylus arm that opposes and is movable toward the front mounting surface, and a spring connected to the stylus member that includes a detente engagement tab which is slidable along the guide surface for selective engagement with the detente recesses. The stylus member is slidable for selectively engaging the detente engagement tab with the detente recesses to selectively position the stylus arm opposite predetermined positions of the front mounting surface. Those predetermined positions correspond to the locations of the activatable controls of the electronic device. For each of the predetermined positions, the stylus arm is movable to contact and activate the corresponding control of the electronic device.

20 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

